per Securities and Exchange Board of India cannot be termed as crash but as a corrective movement. Factually, the prices of listed shares were much higher as on 31st March, 1993 as compared to their prices on 1st April, 1991. However, the share market has shown a downward trend in the recent past. The movement of share prices is determined by several factors such as market sentiments, expectations of investors etc.

(b) and (c) The normal mechanism for regulating the capital market does not involve Government/Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) intervening directly in the share market for regulating the level of share prices. In so far as Stock Exchange reforms are concerned SEBI has been taking steps to increase investors confidence in the capital market by trying to bring about a more transparent and fair trading practices. These steps include inter-alia, registration of market intermediaries, issue of guidelines for disclosure, education of investors, capital adequacy norms for brokers, direction to stock exchanges to alter the compositions of their governing bodies & shortening of settlement cycles.

Keeping in view the downward trend in the share prices, the regulatory measures taken by the stock exchanges include imposition of daily margins, closing of the market to act as circuit breakers, prohibition of short sales in respect of all specified shares and restriction on blank sales etc.

Bank vehicles for carrying cash

172. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be to state :

(a) whether some youths looted Rs. 49 lakhs belonging to the Karol Bagh branch of Punjab and Sind Bank in transit recently;

(b) if so, whether the Punjab and Sind Bank is not having their own vehicle for carrying cash etc.;

(c) if so, whether there are any instructions not to use public vehicles for such purposes;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to fix responsibility in this regard; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) Punjab & Sind Bank has reported that an amount of Rs. 49 lakhs was looted on 26-2-1993 by the armed robbers while the cash was in transit from its Karol Bagh branch to the currency chest, Asaf Ali Road, New Delhi branch.

(b) to (e) The Karol Bagh branch of Punjab & Sind Bank is attached to its currency chest at Asaf Ali Road, New Delhi which has two cash vans for the purpose of carrying cash from this currency chest to various branches attached to it and vice versa. Banks has reported that on the day of incident i.e. 26-2-1993, one van was unserviceable and the other was engaged in carrying cash from currency chest to banks branches at Rajouri Garden and Gole Market, New Delhi. Indian Banks' Association's guidelines on security arrangements in banks inter alia provide that remittances in excess of Rs. 10 lakhs should be sent only in the bank's cash van. These guidelines also provide that if a cash van/bank's vehicle is not available, a private vehicle may be used. However, as far as possible, a taxi should be preferred than a three-wheeler scooter or cycle rickshaw. Bank has initiated disciplinary action against the concerned employees and have placed under suspension four employees for various lapses on their part.